



# COMMUNITY CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT 15

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**DATE:** August 13, 2025

**TO:** Board of Education

**FROM:** Tom Bramley, Director of Transportation  
Jude Gritter, Director of Transportation  
Diana McCluskey Chief School Business Official  
Kathy Sauerland, Accounting Assistant  
Shari Lazor Ed.D., Associate Superintendent

**RE:** *Approval of Bid Award #26-001 Emergency Transportation Services for Unassigned Bus Routes*

## **Background**

This year, as in previous years, the district continues to face a significant bus driver shortage. As a result, we are requesting approval to hire up to ten (10) emergency supplemental drivers. This 90-day contract, in accordance with Section 10-20.21 of the Illinois School Code, is necessary to cover unassigned bus routes.

As of August 15, 2025, the driver shortage remains ongoing. The district currently employs 90 active drivers, has four candidates in training, and three part-time on-call drivers. Although the Transportation Department was able to consolidate a few routes within Tier 2 (our largest tier), we still require a total of 92 drivers. Additionally, nine sub-route sets remain unfilled. On average, 10 to 15 drivers are absent daily, requiring additional coverage.

Due to the ongoing nationwide shortage of qualified drivers, the district is once again seeking supplemental drivers through a new bidding process. Ensuring safe and timely transportation for our students remains one of the district's highest priorities.

## **Bids Obtained**

Bid #26-001, *Emergency Transportation Services for Unassigned School Bus Routes*, was published in the *Daily Herald* and on the District's website on Thursday, July 24, 2025. Bid specifications were sent to eleven (11) vendors. Five (5) responses were received and publicly opened and read aloud on Monday, August 4, 2025, at 11:30 a.m.

Of the five bids submitted, two—Timeless Transportation and Yellow Bus Group—did not meet the bid specifications.

The most competitive compliant bid was submitted by North America Central School Bus at a daily rate of \$450 per driver, with the ability to provide up to eight (8) drivers. First Student’s bid was \$475 per driver per day, with up to fifteen (15) drivers available. Grand Prairie Transit, Inc. submitted a bid of \$480 per driver per day, also for up to fifteen (15) drivers.

<b>Company</b>	<b>Number of Drivers Bidder Can Provide</b>	<b>Daily Rate per Driver</b>
First Student (Northbrook, IL)	15	\$ 475
Grand Prairie Transit	15	\$480
North America Central School Bus (Joliet, IL)	8	\$450
Timeless Transportation (Glenview, IL) *	3	\$430
Yellow Bus group (Schiller Park, IL)*	15	\$425

\*NOTE: Timeless Transportation and Yellow Bus Group Bids did not meet Bid Specifications

**Recommended Action:** It is recommended that the Board of Education award a three-month contract for Emergency Transportation Services for Unassigned School Bus Routes to North America Central for up to 8 drivers at \$450 per day per driver, and for any drivers above the 8 to First Student for a cost of \$475 per day per driver.